Ottoville Wins County Tournament Honors

Grove Second, Miller City Third in County

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Ottoville High School's basketball team won the Putnam County championship Saturday night by trimming Columbus Grove for the second time this season, 59-50, in the tournament finals.

In the consolation game, defending State B Champion Miller City won its way into the Defiance Sectional by coming from behind to overcome a stubborn Vaughnsville five, 50-45.

The semi-final tilts on last Thursday night saw Columbus Grove nip Miller City 50-40 and Ottoville ran wild over Vaughnsville to the tune of 75-43.

Ottoville 59 - Grove 50

The Big Green left no doubt as to the outcome of the game from early in the opening period. Grove scored first in the game but Ottoville took over at 3-2 and then sank another basket for a 5-2 advantage.

The teams traded baskets until Ottoville moved out in front at 13-8 and from there on, they were never in much trouble. By the end of the first quarter, they held a 19-13 advantage which they stretched to 33-19 by the half.

Grove changed their defense to pressing tactics in the second half and this considerably slowed the Ottoville offense. Grove outscored the champs in both periods of the last half but they were unable to overcome the 14-point Ottoville lead.

Kortokrax Gets 26

By the start of the last quarter, the Ottoville margin was cut to 11 points, 45-34, but they showed no signs of giving in as they practically

matched basket for basket with the Bulldogs in the last stanza.

Big Dick Kortokrax collected 26 points for the champs on 11 field goals and four free throws. Sixteen of his points came in the first half, most of them on push shots from the side of the floor. Jim McBride paced the runners-up with 18.

Coach L. W. Heckman of Ottoville was more pleased with his boys than ever as they handed him the championship trophy for a birthday present.

Ottoville

Weber $- \frac{4}{3}/11$. Honigford $- \frac{1}{2}/4$. Kortokrax- $\frac{11}{4}/26$. Altenburger $- \frac{4}{2}/10$. Martin $- \frac{1}{0}/2$. Beining $- \frac{3}{0}/6$.

Totals - 24/11/59

Columbus Grove

Dunlap - 1/0/2. McBride - 7/4/18. Roberts - 0/2/2. Beg - 4/0/8. Sargent - 5/1/11. Bell - 4/1/9. Totals - 21/8/50